

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

22

November 30, 2004

FROM: **PATRICK J. MEAD**, Director
Department of Public Works – **Transportation**

SUBJECT: **CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) EXEMPTION FOR
IMPROVEMENTS TO SAN BERNARDINO AVENUE IN THE BLOOMINGTON/FONTANA
AREA**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Find that the installation of traffic signals, street improvements and paving, acquisition of rights-of-way and relocation of utilities on San Bernardino Avenue in the Bloomington/Fontana area is an exempt project under the CEQA Class 3, Section 15303 (d).
2. Approve the project as defined in the Notice of Exemption and direct the Clerk of the Board to post the notice of exemption.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The proposed project will involve installation of traffic signals, street improvements and paving, acquisition of rights-of-way and relocation of utilities at various locations along San Bernardino Avenue in the Bloomington/Fontana area. Environmental staff of the Advance Planning Division of the Land Use Services Department has reviewed this item and recommended a categorical exemption for this project. This project qualifies for an exemption in accordance with CEQA guidelines Section 15303 (d). This section allows the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures such as water main, sewage, electrical, gas, and other utility extensions, including street improvements, of reasonable length to serve such construction. As such, when the Board considers the environmental findings, the filing of a Notice of Exemption is required.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS: This item was reviewed by Deputy County Counsel Charles S. Scolastico (387-5471) on November 15, 2004 and by the County Administrative Office (Tom Forster, Administrative Analyst, 387-4635) on November 17, 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The action to find the project categorically exempt has minimal financial impact. A separate item will be brought to the Board to approve the plans, specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for construction of the project. The total project cost is estimated at \$2,875,000. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds in the amount of \$2,545,237 have been awarded by the San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) for this project. The County's local match share is \$329,763. Appropriations for this project have been included in the Fiscal Year 2004/2005 budget for the road fund (SAA-TRA-TRA- 17 HF0013).

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this item and concurs with the Department's recommendations because the proposed project will improve air quality and traffic circulation in the Bloomington/Fontana area.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): 2nd, 5th

PRESENTER: Patrick J. Mead, 387-7906

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

22